

**Keep me safe  
to get me  
there faster**



Did you know that dangerous and prohibited goods cannot be sent in packages travelling through the international mail network?

These include explosives such as fireworks and gunpowder, aerosol spray cans and other compressed gases, lighter fuels, perfumes, matches and other flammable products, and corrosives such as mercury. Counterfeit and pirated items are also forbidden.

**Check before sending.**

For more information, visit: [www.upu.int/keepmesafe](http://www.upu.int/keepmesafe) or contact your Post or Customs.

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Your Post is committed to providing quality service and delivering your packages and parcels as expeditiously as possible. But it can only do so with your help.

If you are sending a package abroad, be aware that some items, materials and substances are prohibited from travelling in the international mail stream.

Some products\* are considered dangerous and present a safety hazard if travelling on aircraft. That's why international airline rules prohibit their inclusion in postal packages. These include ammunition, lighters, oil paints, perfumes, matches or mercury compounds, for example.

Other products, such as counterfeit or pirated goods, coins and valuable goods and live animals, are also prohibited from being sent through the post.

You are responsible for the content of packages you give to the Post for delivery. A package containing something it shouldn't will be handled in accordance with the relevant national legislation and likely be destroyed. Failure to comply with prohibitions and restrictions will also affect your ability to claim compensation.

Refer to this flyer for information and contact your Post's customer service for advice and guidance.

[www.upu.int/keepmesafe](http://www.upu.int/keepmesafe)

\* Conditions may differ if these items, materials or substances are travelling domestically only; check with your Post.



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## Dangerous goods prohibited in international mail



### Class 1 Explosives

- Fireworks
- Firecrackers
- Ammunition
- Gunpowder
- Flares



### Class 2 Compressed Gases

- Propane tanks
- Diving tanks
- Aerosol spray cans
- Butane gas
- Fire extinguishers



### Class 3 Flammable Liquids

- Lighters
- Lighter fuels
- Oil paints, wood varnishes and enamels – solvent-based
- Adhesives
- Perfumes and aftershaves
- Nail varnish, polish and gel



### Class 4 Flammable Substances

- Matches
- Charcoals



### Class 5 Oxidizing Substances

- Pool chemicals
- Hydrogen Peroxide
- Bleach



### Class 6 Toxic and Infections Substances\*

- Pesticides
- Agricultural chemicals
- Mercury compounds
- Bacteria
- Viruses



### Class 7 Radioactive materials\*

- Radioactive wastes
- Radioactive sources
- Smoke detectors



### Class 8 Corrosives

- Wet batteries
- Mercury
- Hydrochloric acid



### Class 9 Miscellaneous Dangerous Goods\*

- Magnetized goods
- Dry ice
- Lithium batteries



\* The Post can carry some of the substances in these categories in very limited quantities. Check with your Post for details.

Mail items may be returned if content description on the customs form does not make it clear that no dangerous goods are enclosed.

unacceptable	acceptable
<b>Household goods</b> Why? May contain pressurized aerosol cans, flammable paints, or adhesives.	Chocolate Candies Shirts Dresses
<b>Sporting goods</b> Why? May contain ammunition or compressed gases.	Racket Ball Shoes
<b>Camping goods</b> Why? May contain compressed gas, cooking fuel or matches.	Tent Sleeping bags
<b>Diving goods</b> Why? May contain compressed gases.	Wet suits Diving masks Fins Snorkels
<b>Medicine, drugs</b> Why? May contain alcohol or be packed in dry ice.	Ibuprofen Antacid tablets
<b>Cosmetics</b> Why? May contain flammable perfume, manicure goods, or nail polish remover.	Soap Lip gloss
<b>Automobile components</b> Why? May contain flammable fuel additives, aerosols or compressed gas.	Mirror Seat cover
<b>Medical devices</b> Why? May contain blood pressure measurement devices or thermometers that contain mercury.	Stethoscopes





## Lithium batteries

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- Want to send an electronic device containing lithium batteries or cells to someone in another country?
- Be sure to check that your Post accepts parcels or packages containing these batteries or cells.
- If your Post does accept such packages, the lithium batteries or cells must be installed in small consumer electronic equipment and cannot exceed a certain quantity.



### not acceptable

(batteries exceeding allowable size/power limits)

- Electric bicycles
- Electric wheelchairs
- Small generators



### uninstalled batteries

- Batteries not installed in handset
- Battery not installed
- Batteries shipped alone



### Quick guide

- For international mail, the lithium batteries **MUST** be installed in the electronic equipment
- Packages must not carry more than four lithium cells or two batteries
- Lithium batteries alone or simply packed alongside the equipment are not acceptable for international mailing
- Strong outer packaging is required
- The contents of a parcel must be properly packaged to prevent shifting and/or damage to contents during transport
- Defective or damaged batteries are never acceptable



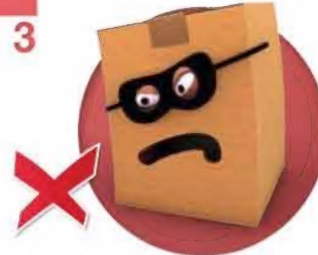
### acceptable

(with batteries installed)

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| GPS                   | Scanners             |
| Smart phones          | MP3 players          |
| Video cameras         | Portable DVD players |
| Electric shavers      | Walkie-talkies       |
| Bluetooth headsets    | Digital cameras      |
| Measuring equipment   | Laptop computers     |
| Radio-controlled toys | Tablet computers     |

## Prohibited items

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The Post can transport a lot of things, but there are some items that are expressly prohibited in the international mail stream.

*In very specific cases, it may be possible to send some of these items by international post if they meet proper packaging instructions or are sent in insured or registered letter-post or parcel items.*



### prohibited

- Narcotics and psychotropic substances, as defined by the International Narcotics Control Board, or other illicit drugs prohibited in the country of destination
- Obscene or immoral articles
- Counterfeit and pirated goods
- Articles which, by their nature or their packing, may expose officials or the general public to danger, or soil or damage other items, postal equipment or third-party property
- Live animals and reptiles\*
- Coins, bank notes, currency notes or securities of any kind payable to bearer, travellers' cheques, platinum, gold or silver, precious stones, jewels or other valuable articles cannot travel in uninsured letter-post or parcel items\*



### acceptable

- Some live creatures, including bees, leeches and silkworms, can be sent, but the box or package carrying them must protect them, as well as postal staff and customers, from harm. Such items should be sent using a priority service and the package should be clearly marked **URGENT - LIVING CREATURES - HANDLE WITH CARE**. The sender's name and address must be clearly visible on the outer packaging.

*As for money and valuables, some countries may still prohibit their entry on their territory even if they are sent as insured or registered letter-post or parcel items. So depending on where you are sending your items, always check with your Post for details and conditions.*

### Did you know?

- The transmission of counterfeit or pirated goods through the mail is illegal.
  - Counterfeit and pirated goods violate copyright provisions and constitute an economic crime.
- Furthermore, products like counterfeit medicines pose serious health risks to their users and taking them could possibly cause death.
- The Post works closely with customs authorities to prevent the transportation of counterfeit and pirated goods through the postal network.**
- Packages containing counterfeit or pirated goods may be seized and destroyed.**

## Packaging your items properly



Here are some general guidelines for making your parcel or package fit for travelling through international mail.

### general guidelines

- Use padded envelopes for items with sharp edges or odd shapes to prevent the items cutting through the outer packaging.
- Use an outer carton strong enough to hold the weight of the contents.
- Mark the parcel **FRAGILE OR PERISHABLE** if applicable.
- Fragile items should not touch each other or the sides of the outer carton. Pack the items with bubble wrap, polystyrene chips or crushed paper to a depth of at least 5 cm around each item.
- Write the sender's name and address clearly on the outer packaging so the item can be returned if undelivered.
- Seal the parcel securely using strong tape along all the openings.
- Flatten any sharp ends of staples and cover with tape.
- If you re-use cardboard boxes or any other container already used to transport items, please ensure that they have not been weakened as contents could get damaged. This would affect any compensation claim.
- Consider using reinforced corners if the contents of the parcel are heavy.

